



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Red Meat Production in Pennsylvania Up 8 Percent in April

HARRISBURG, PA, May 23, 2008 --- Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in **Pennsylvania** during April 2008 totaled 114.4 million pounds, up 8 percent from April 2007, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Beef production, at 108.8 million pounds live weight, was up 13 percent from April 2007. Total head slaughtered was 86,100, up 11 percent. Live weight averaged 1,273 pounds, up 30 pounds from last year. Veal production was 5.8 million pounds live weight, up 2 percent from last year. Calf slaughter of 14,000 head was down 2 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 15 pounds to 411 pounds.

Pork production was 63.7 million pounds live weight, up 4 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 250,000, up 4 percent from April 2007. Average live weight increased 2 pounds from last year to 255 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production during April 2008 was 476,000 pounds live weight, down 2 percent. The number slaughtered was 5,400, down 2 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 1 pound to 89 pounds.

Nationally, commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in April 2008 totaled 4.30 billion pounds, up 14 percent from the 3.75 billion pounds produced in April 2007. Beef production, at 2.25 billion pounds, was 12 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 10 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds. Veal production totaled 11.9 million pounds, up 1 percent from April a year ago.

Pork production totaled 2.02 billion pounds, up 18 percent from the previous year. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was up 2 percent from April 2007.

January-April 2008 commercial red meat production was 16.8 billion pounds, up 8 percent from April 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 13 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

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